

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 CU-04 SCI-06 DRC-01 OC-06 CCO-00 EB-11

COME-00 TRSE-00 ( ISO ) W  
----- 088190

R 250248Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3031

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMCONSUL LAHORE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PK, IN

SUBJ: INDO-PAK RELATIONS: NEXT STEP IN ACCOMMODATION

SUMMARY: ACCORDING MFA OFFICIAL, GOP ENVISAGES RESTORATION OF POST AND TELEGRAPH COMMUNICATIONS AS NEXT STEP IN IMPLEMENTING SIMLA AGREEMENT, AND HAS PROPOSED EARLY BI-LATERAL TALKS ON THIS TOPIC. PAKS PREPARED GO AHEAD EVEN BEFORE COMPLETION OF ALL POW, BENGALIEE AND NON-BENGALIEE EXCHANGES. GOP WOULD HAVE PREFERRED RENEWAL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS AS FIRST STEP BUT HAVE FOUND GOI UNDULY SKITTISH ON THIS SUBJECT. END SUMMARY.

1. IN COURSE OF JANUARY 23 DISCUSSION WITH MFA DIRGEN FOR SOUTH ASIA, ABDUL SATTAR, POL COUNSELOR NOTED THAT EXCHANGE OF POWS, BENGALIEES AND NON-BENGALIEES WOULD BE COMPLETED WITHIN NEXT FEW MONTHS AND WONDERED WHAT GOP ENVISAGED AS NEXT STEP TOWARD NORMALIZING INDO-PAK SITUATION.

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2. SATTAR REPLIED THAT GOP HAD FOR SOME TIME BEEN CONSIDERING THIS SAME QUESTION AND HAD ALREADY TAKEN CERTAIN STEPS. AS EARLY AS LAST OCTOBER, HE SAID, PAKS HAD SUGGESTED TO INDIANS THAT BOTH SIDES PERMIT PILGRIMS AND RELIGIOUS TRAVELERS TO VISIT SHRINES ON OTHER SIDE OF BORDER AS MODEST GESTURE TOWARD IMPROVING ATMOSPHERE. INDIANS HAD RESPONDED IN LATE DECEMBER WITH COMMENT THAT PROPOSAL RE PILGRIMS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED IN DUE COURSE WITH OTHER MEASURES SPECIFIED IN PARA THREE OF SIMLA AGREEMENT, I.E. RESTORATION COMMUNICATIONS, RESUMPTION TRADE AND TRAVEL, RENEWAL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL EXCHANGES, ETC.

3. SINCE THEN, SATTAR CONTINUED, PAKS HAVE BEEN CONSIDERING HOW PARA THREE MIGHT BEST BE IMPLEMENTED. THEY HAD DECIDED IT WOULD NOT BE NECESSARY TO WAIT FOR COMPLETION OF ALL POPULATION EXCHANGES BEFORE MOVING AHEAD, BUT WERE PREPARED OPEN TALKS WITH DELHI SOON AS EXCHANGES HAD BEEN "SUBSTANTIALLY" CARRIED OUT. JUST LAST WEEK, SATTAR SAID, PAKS HAD SENT MESSAGE TO GOI PROPOSING RESTORATION OF COMMUNICATIONS AS NEXT MOVE IN CARRYING OUT SIMLA PROVISIONS AND SUGGESTING EARLY TECHNICAL-LEVEL MEETING TO DISCUSS MATTER.

4. SATTAR COMMENTED THAT GOP WOULD ACTUALLY PREFER TO START IMPLEMENTATION SIMLA PARA THREE BY RESUMING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. FOR REASONS UNKNOWN TO PAKS, HOWEVER, INDIANS HAD SHOWN RELUCTANCE TO START THERE AND HAS LEFT GOP WITH IMPRESSION THAT THEY FEARED PAKS MIGHT, IN SOME INEXPLICABLE WAY, GAIN ADVANTAGE OVER INDIA THROUGH RESUMING RELATIONS. PAKS REALLY WERE NOT ALL THAT CONCERNED ABOUT QUESTION OF RELATIONS, SATTAR SAID, BUT FELT IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO PROCEED WITH OTHER PARA THREE PROVISIONS IN ABSENCE DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. RESUMPTION OF TRAVEL BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES, FOR EXAMPLE, WOULD BE DIFFICULT INDEED IF TRAVELLERS WERE UNABLE OBTAIN VISAS FOR THE OTHER COUNTRY, WHILE SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL EXCHANGES WOULD BE JUST ABOUT IMPOSSIBLE. THAT LEFT RESTORATION OF COMMUNICATIONS AS MOST PRACTICAL MATTER TO PURSUE UNTIL INDIANS OVERCAME LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THEIR ODD SUSPICIONS RE DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. SATTAR ALSO SAID GOP HAD BEEN EXPLORING WHETHER TRADE COULD BE RESUMED IN ABSENCE OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS MERELY BY REPEALING PRESENT PAKISTANI LAW WHICH PROHIBITS IT, BUT HAD FOUL THAT IT WOULD BE MOST CUMBERSOME.

5. SATTAR NOTED THAT PAKS HAD NOT YET REVEALED PUBLICLY THEIR MESSAGE TO INDIANS, COMMENTING THAT THIS DIFFERED

FROM CUSTOMARY INDIAN PRACTICE OF GIVING PRESS SUBSTANCE  
OF ANY INDIAN PROPOSALS TO ISLAMABAD EVEN BEFORE THEY  
WERE RECEIVED BY ADDRESSEE. "WE ARE HOPING TO TEACH THEM  
BETTER MANNERS", HE SAID. TO DATE, NO REPLY HAD BEEN  
RECEIVED FROM DELHI.  
BYROADE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ESTABLISHMENT, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, NEGOTIATIONS, BORDER CONTROLS, POW RETURN  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** morefirh  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, PK, IN  
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